(e) to what extent these measures have safeguarded the interests of broadcasting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The News Broadcasters Association (NBA) have prepared their Code of Ethics & Broadcasting Standards. In the aftermath of terrorist attack in Mumbai, NBA have also issued Guidelines for Telecast of News during Emergency Situations and also issued specific Guidelines covering Reportage to be adhered to by their member-broadcasters.

(d) and (e) It has been mentioned by the NBA that all their member channels are voluntarily adopting their Code of Ethics and Broadcasting Standards as a measure of self-regulation.

Curbing sexual perversions

†920.SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the steps being taken and proposed to be taken by Government to curb dishing out sexual perversions through literature and electronic media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): As far as literature is concerned, the National Book Trust (NBT) does not allow publication of such material and manuscripts. Manuscripts are selected after strict scrutiny to ensure that it is free from any reference to any such issues. The manuscripts are also reviewed by outside experts/scholars whenever necessary. So far as Print media is concerned, Government has set up the Press Council of India, a statutory autonomous body under the Press Council Act, 1978 with the twin objectives of preserving the freedom of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India. The Government does not exercise any control on the content of the Print media. Press Council of India have, in turn, formed Norms off Journalistic Conduct under Article 13(2)/(b) of the Press Council Act, 1978.

So far as electronic media (Private Television channels) is concerned, all the private satellite Television channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. Whenever any complaint is brought to its notice, the Ministry examines the matter and appropriate action is taken as per Rules.

Doordarshan and AIR stations

921. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR) stations functioning in the country, particularly in Himachal Pradesh;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi